

## Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 HA-05 IO-13 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05

H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02

SS-15 ICA-11 EUR-12 /094 W

-----074775 230201Z /75

R 221415Z AUG 78

FM AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9090

INFO AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY LILONGWE

AMEMBASSY LUBUMBASHI

AMEMBASSY MAPUTO

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LUSAKA 2954

PRETORIA FOR AMBASSADOR LOW

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SREF PEPR CG TZ MI ZA

SUBJ: ZAMBIA EXPELS ALIENS

REF: LUBUMBASHI 1028 (NOTAL)

1. OVER THE PAST TWO WEEKS, ZAMBIAN POLICE, NATIONAL SERVICE, AND MILITARY HAVE MADE A NUMBER OF SURPRISE SWEEPS THROUGH TOWNSHIPS IN MOST URBAN AREAS OF THE COUNTRY. THE ANNOUNCED PURPOSES OF THESE RAIDS WERE TO IDENTIFY ILLEGAL ALIENS AND RECOVER STOLEN PROPERTY. FOREIGN NATIONALS FOUND TO BE ILLEGALLY RESIDENT HAVE BEEN ARRESTED, AND THE GRZ IS NOW IN THE PROCESS OF DEPORTING THEM. THE SWEEPS, DUBBED "OPERATION CLEAN-UP" BY THE PRESS, BEGAN AUGUST 10 IN LUSAKA, KABWE, AND NDOLA, AND WERE LATER EXTENDED TO INCLUDE OTHER MAJOR CITIES IN ALL PARTS OF THE COUNTRY.

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2. ACCORDING TO LATEST REPORTS, APPROXIMATELY 3,500 ALIENS WERE ARRESTED, MAINLY FROM ZAIRE, TANZANIA, AND MALAWI, BUT ALSO INCLUDING RHODESIANS, KENYANS, AND SOMALIS. MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS OFFICIALS ANNOUNCED THAT ALL THOSE WHO COULD NOT PROVE THEY WERE LEGALLY PRESENT IN ZAMBIA WOULD BE REPA-  
TRIATED. THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN

AFFAIRS TOLD THE PRESS THAT HE HAD FULLY BRIEFED THE EMBASSIES OF TANZANIA, ZAIRE, AND MALAWI PRIOR TO DEPORTATIONS OF THEIR NATIONALS. THE LATTER ANNOUNCEMENT WAS MADE FOLLOWING ALLEGATIONS EMANATING FROM THE ZAIREAN CONSULATE IN NDOLA THAT THE GRZ HAD NOT INFORMED ZAIREAN OFFICIALS OF THE EXPULSIONS.

3. COMMENT: OPERATION CLEAN-UP HAS RUN FAIRLY SMOOTHLY. MANY ZAMBIANS SEEM TO HAVE ACCEPTED THE NEED FOR SUCH DRASTIC ACTION TO DEAL WITH THE RAPIDLY RISING CRIME RATE. THE ACTION AGAINST ALIENS ALSO APPEARS TO HAVE MET WITH GENERAL POPULAR SUPPORT, ESPECIALLY SINCE CRIME IS USUALLY BLAMED ON "FOREIGN ELEMENTS." THERE HAVE BEEN SOME COMPLAINTS OF MISCONDUCT BY THE SECURITY FORCES INVOLVED IN THE SWEEPS, BUT CONSIDERING THE SCALE OF THE OPERATION THESE HAVE BEEN RELATIVELY FEW. IN ADDITION TO THE ILLEGAL ALIENS ROUNDED UP, POLICE ALSO CONFISCATED LARGE AMOUNTS OF ALLEGEDLY STOLEN GOODS, RANGING FROM TOILET SEATS TO PEUGEOTS, AND UNEARTHED A CACHE OF OVER \$35,000 BURIED BEHIND ONE MAN'S HOUSE. NEWSPAPER EDITORIALS ON THE OPERATION HAVE WARNED THAT PEOPLE MUST REMAIN VIGILANT BECAUSE THIEVES AND ALIENS WILL ONLY "LIE LOW" UNTIL THINGS COOL OFF. IN THE SHORT RUN, HOWEVER, THE POLICE ACTION HAS BEEN AT LEAST MODERATELY SUCCESSFUL.  
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## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** EXPULSION, ALIENS  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Reference:** 78 LUBUMBASHI 1028  
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